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Corrected Version (corrects Typo in 3rd sentence).

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**U.S. Prevails in Dispute With Canada
Over Sport Fishing and Tourism Services**

Today, United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky announced resolution of the NAFTA dispute with Canada over Ontario's discriminatory regulations concerning sport fishing and tourism services. Ambassador Barshefsky stated: "I am pleased to announce that Ontario has revoked the discriminatory practices at issue. The vitality of small and medium-sized businesses in northern Minnesota was directly at stake, this action demonstrates that NAFTA works for large and small companies alike."

This ends the section 301 investigation initiated in April, but USTR will continue monitoring the situation pursuant to section 306 of the Trade Act.

Ambassador Barshefsky further stated: "We were able to address the trade matters at issue and at the same time encourage sustainable fisheries in the border lakes. I believe this sets an excellent example of how open markets and environmental objectives can be realized. This was also another precedent setting case in the level of cooperation between the U.S. federal government and a state government. Minnesota state officials participated at every stage of the consultations and negotiations with Canada. I want to thank Governor Ventura and his team for their assistance, which was critical."

Background

Since 1994, the Province of Ontario, Canada, had sought to induce U.S. recreational fishermen to use Ontario resort facilities and services (lodging, fishing guides, boats, etc.) by limiting the amount of certain fish they could catch and keep in certain lakes that straddle the Minnesota-Ontario border, unless they lodged or otherwise spent money on the Ontario side. The restrictions, applied to 150 miles of the border, unfairly discriminated against U.S. resorts, fishing guides, and other businesses tied to sport fishing. On April 29, 1999, USTR initiated a section 301 investigation pursuant to a petition filed by the Border Waters Coalition. After several sessions, including consultations under Article 2006 of the NAFTA, Ontario revoked the "stay overnight" requirement and other discriminatory measures.

